## GENERAL OFFICERS.

The bill from the Senate to provide for the orga the volunteer force brought into the service of the United States into brigades and divisions, and to provide for the necessary number of general officers to command the same, was read twice, under the rule, once by title, and once at length. Mr. HARALSON asked that the till be put on its passage

without reference or delay.

Mr. FARAN asked Mr. H. to give way to enable him to move to amend the bill by adding a section to increase the pay of volunteers to ten dollars a month.

Mr. HARALSON said he could not yield the floor for any amendments of that sort; if any provisions of the kind were necessary, let them be provided for in special bills for the purpose. Though the bill recognising the existence of a state of war had passed the House on the 13th May, the organization of the army was not yet completed; not less than twenty regiments had reached the camp of General Taylor, or were on their march thither, and they were yet withou officers. He urgently requested that none of the motions usually resorted to for purposes of delay might now be resorted to. Mr. H. said he was urged by gentlemen in all quarters of the House to move the previous question; he disliked very much to do that; but—

Mr. BRODHEAD here rose to order, and inquired of the Chairman whether the amendment proposed by the gentlement from Ohic (Mr. F. any) did not contain an appropria-

man from Ohio (Mr. FARAN) did not contain an appropria

tion and if so, whether it must not be committed.

The CHAIR replied that the amendment had not been received by the House. The gentleman who proposed to offer it not having had the floor to make his motion.

Mr. STEPHENS pressed Mr. Haralson to delay his

But Mr. HARALSON declined to do so; and there upon moved the previous question.

But, on counting, the House refused to second the call Ayes 66, noes 67.

Mr. CARROLL wished to obtain the floor-

But Mr. HARALSON, who again obtained it, to comply with his request.

Mr. TOOMBS observed that this was the third war bill or

which the House had been gagged, and used some language not distinctly heard by the reporter.

Mr. COCKE offered the following amendment:

Strike out all that provides for the appointment of brigadie generals, and insert :

"And when the number of volunteer regiments from any one State, offered and accepted under the act of the 13th o May, 1846, shall be sufficient to constitute a brigade, a briga-dier general for the command of the same shall be appointed by the authority of that State to which they belong, in the manper prescribed by the law of said State.

Mr. STEPHENS then took the floor, (Mr. Cocke yieldon its passage at this time It involved consequences of too much importance. The House should take time to consider its provisions and deliberate duly upon them. This was the second supplemental war bill we have had. And if we pass fourth. All this grew out of the haste with which this House has acted upon this subject from the beginning. If the origi nal war bill had not been so hurried through the House, an passed within two hours by the gag, it would not have required so much patch-work by way of supplemental bills to per

Mr. HARALSON. The gentleman, his colleague, has Mr. HARALSON. The gentleman, his colleague, had complained of the hasty legislation of the House on these war bills, and had remarked on the number of supplemental bills which it had been thought necessary to introduce. But the gentleman ought to remember that none of these supplemental bills would have been necessary, if the Senate had not modified the original bill by striking out of it the very provisions which these bills contained. The bill as it went from the House provided for all these details. [Mr. H. here quoted the fifth section.] But this had been stricken out by the Senate the fifth section. ] But this had been stricken out by the Ser ate, and hence the necessity for the additional and supplemental bills of which his colleague complained. Mr. H. had deemed it necessary to make these remarks in justification of

the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. STEPHENS continued. I did not intend, M Speaker, to cast any censure upon the chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, or upon the committee itself. I am speaking against the great impropriety of proceeding in such a hasty way in passing measures requiring so much reflection and deliberation. Why, sir, this bill has just been read the first time. I venture to say that there are not fifteen men is the House, saving the Committee on Military Affairs, who understand its provisions. Let it be referred to a committee ; let it be printed; let us see it; let us understand it; and let what will be its operation. And then, perhaps, w shall not have to pass another supplemental or amendator

There are matters and principles involved in this bill which uld like to consider before I am willing to give a vote for it, either one way or another, for or against it. I do no wish to embarrass the earliest and most efficient organization of the forces now raised-I mean the volunteer to of the forces now raised—I mean the volunteer forces. But, sir, there are grave principles, and important ones, involved in this measure—constitutional questions—which I wish to have time to consider. I am disposed to think that the officers of the volunteers should be elected by the volunteers themselves. This bill, if I understand it, gives the appointment of the brigadier generals to the President. Why is this? If these volunteers are to be considered as State troop and part of the militia, the President of course, under the constitution, should not appoint their officers; and if they are to be considered a portion of the regular army—and we know of but two kinds of service, either militia or United Stateswhy is it that the President does not an the other officers of the regiments and companies.

This is an anomalous service, to say the least of it, and I want time to consider it. I want, in any event, to secure the appointment of their higher officers to the volunteers them-selves. There can be no more chiestian in the selves. There can be no more objection in allowing them to select their brigadier generals than there is to their election of their colonels and captains and others. I therefore move that the bill be committed to the Committee on Military Affairs, with the following instructions:

"To report a bill providing that in all cases where any State has furnished a sufficient number of volunteers to make a brigade, it shall be officered in all respects according to the laws of said State."

Mr. CHAPMAN, of Alabama, thought it was high tim to act. The provisions of the bill were sufficiently under-stood, and had all been discussed before: this bill did no more than the House had desired to do when they passed the first war bill. He, therefore, demanded the previous question.

Mr. YOUNG wanted Mr. C. to withdraw the call, to ena

ble him to offer an amendment, which he indicated. But Mr. C. declined, and persisted in his call.

The question being taken on seconding it, the yeas wer 70, the noes 74. So the House refused to second the call. Mr. YANCEY said he was in favor of the recommitment of the bill with instructions, that the general officers should be elected by the officers of the brigades and commissioned by the President. He would move an amendment to that effect, Georgia, (Mr. STEPHENS.)
Mr. GENTRY reminded Mr. Y. that the amendment pro

posed by Mr. STEPHENS required the officers to be appointed according to the laws of the States to which the brigades or visions to be officered might belong.

Mr. YANCEY, resuming, said that in some States there

was no law on the subject; but the present bill, if amended as he desired, would make a law for the case. Mr. Y. considered volunteers to be militia, and as such entitled to the like these must have entire confidence in their officers or the were not fit to be led into action. They had no discipline nor habits of military obedience to supply the place of per-sonal confidence. [Great noise and confusion prevailed in the House.]

Mr. BURT rose and commenced to address the House, but

for some time could not be heard at all.

The Chain directed him to pause till order was restored.

When heard, Mr. Bunr was observing that the amendmen proposed by his friend from Alabama (Mr. YANCEY) was utterly impracticable, as all must at once see who understood the organization of an army. If the volunteers elected their own officers, who were to be commissioned by the Executives of the States, it was manifest that neither troops nor officers could be called out by the President (according to the act of the 13th May last) for a longer term than six months. If the Governor of a State comm sioned these officers, colonels, or brigadiers, or major generals, these commissions could run but for six months. This was undeniable. Now, the volunteers were enlisted for twelve months; yet the amendment of the gentleman from Alabama would put over twelve month men six month officers. The difficulty of carrying out such a plan was insuperable. Suppose the general officers to be chosen according to his plan, and a vacancy should occur by

2 22 22 71

teers were not considered as militia, why did not the Presi dent appoint their colonels as well as their general officers of regular troops were appointed by the Preside and Senate. Mr. BURT replied : He had already said that, while lunteers had never been regarded as militia, neither had they in all instances been regarded as enlisted regulars. Congress prescribed the number of volunteers to be received and their

B. held in his hand a brief synopsis of the several acts on this subject.

The law of 1791, which was the first act passed in refer-

ence to these volunteers, provided that the President might employ troops as "levies," in addition to the "militis," and might appoint their officers. All knew who was then the of the United States. The law received his approbation and signature. The next act was that of 1794. This allowed the Presi-

dent to call upon the Executives of the States for 80,000 militia. It empowered the Governors to accept the services of independent corps as a part of the number, if they should voluntarily engage to serve as such. These corps were to be officered by State authority. The evident implication was that without such authority the State Executives would have

had no authority to accept the services of volunteers. In September, 1794, the President called on the State of Pennsylvania for 2,500 militia, to serve, by voluntary enlistments, for thirty days, and the President appointed their

In May, 1798, the President was authorized to cause to be enlisted 10,000 United States troops for three years, and also to accept the services of volunteers—the President to appoint the officers. Here a distinction was recognised between United States troops and volunteers. With one single exception, where volunteers might be accepted by the Pr

he alone was to officer them. In June, 1798, volunteers were declared to be exempt from militia drill-from all militia laws, militia duty, and militia fines-and even their captains were to be appointed by

In March, 1799, the President was authorized to accept the services of 75,000 volunteers, and their officers wer be appointed by him.

1803 the President was empowered to call upon the Governors of the States for 80,000 militia, officers included; and he might authorize the Governors of States to accept vono would engage to serve for twelve months tachments of militia and volunteers together were to be officered by the States.
In April, 1806, the President was authorized to call on the

Governors of States for 100,000 militia, and to confer on them the power of accepting volunteers who would serve for Detachments of militia and volunteers to be of-In March, 1808, the same law was re-enacted.

to accept the services of fifty thousand volunteers, to be offi-cered according to the laws of the States, and vacancies to be filled by the same rule.
In June, 1812, Mr. Madison, in a special message, recorr

On the 6th February, 1812, the President was author

sioned by the United States. In July, 1812, the President was authorized to appoint th general, field, and staff officers of the volunteers w bind themselves to serve according to the requirements of law. In February, 1814, the President was authorized to receive volunteers under the laws last passed, if they would engage to

serve for five years or during the war-their officers to take rank with the officers of the line.

Another law was passed in 1814, declaring that the officers of volunteer corps were to receive promotion in the same man ner as officers of the line.

By a law of January, 1815, the same thing was ena and the President was authorized to receive forty thousand Stat troops, to be officered by the States, and also forty thousand colunteers, to be officered by the United States.

Such was the course of legislation down to 1836.

It appeared that the States regarded volunteers as not being militia; the Government of the United States regarded them as not militia: they were regarded as troops enlisted in the service of the United States. When the State Governor were authorized to receive volunteers instead of militia the States appointed the officers, and then they were considered as State volunteers. This was the fact in every case but that of February, 1812. When volunteers engaged in the service of the United States, they were officered by the United States; and the act of 1812, though it at first provided they should be officered by the States, was expressly recommended by Mr.

Madison to be changed.

Mr. B. said he should not undertake to define the exact character of volunteer troops, and to say whether they were militia or regulars. Our past legislation had regarded volun-teers engaging to serve the United States as not being militia teers engaging to serve the United States as not being annual of the States, for they were expressly exempted from the operation of militia laws. Mr. B. said that he could not perceive executivities a chiection to the passage of the bill. If the any constitutional objection to the passage of the bill. If the question created a doubt in any mind, this uniform course of legislation was certainly entitled to great consideration, and should go not a little way to remove it. When gentlemen regarded the fact, which was beyond all doubt or question, that the efficiency of this description of troops depended on the mode in which they were officered, and when this unbroken tion was found to be in strict conformity the principles of the bill, he trusted gentlemen would bring themselves to reject it.

Mr. THOMASSON said what he had now heard from the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BURT) satisfied him of the impropriety of hastily acting on this subject. Mr. T. was not prepared to say whether volunteers were to be considered as militia or not, but this he would say, that he was unwilling as mittua of not, but this he would say, that he was unwining to confer upon the President the power of taking a man perhaps from some other State, and placing him over the militia of Kentucky, whether the volunteers were militia or not:

a man with whom they might have no acquaintance, and in whom they were not prepared to place confidence. If our pre-vious legislation had warranted a procedure like this, it was time it should be changed, and it would be wiser to enact a new law than to hold ourselves bound by precedent to do an inwise act. He heard it said that the laws of Kentucky did not declare how volunteers were to be officered, and it was indeed true that the militia law in that State had become almost a dead letter, and militia musters a laughing-stock. Very lit-tle attention was paid to training. But admitting this to be the case, he would still leave the authority of appointment be called out at all. with those States which had legislated on the subject. If there were some States which had not any militia law, then he would authorize their Executive to exercise the power of ap-States to which they belonged. This bill gave the President the same power which had been exercised by the State Executive. Mr. T. would leave it to the candor of any gentle-

teer troops were subject to the rules and articles of war, and

commission the officers of the Kentucky volunteers because there was no law of the State which authorized him to do so.

This might be so, and as at present the United States had no law contented with such legislation as had prevailed from the days This might be so, and as at present the United States had no law which applied to the case, Mr. T. was in favor of enacting a law which should take the power of appointment from the Executive and expressly confer it upon the States. If, as he heard it objected, there was no general officer at present to command these volunteer forces, the difficulty was soon remedied.

Let a inner officer take the command, even a lieutenant was at they were Government troops and not militia. The original transfer is they were Government troops and not militia. The original transfer is they were Government troops and not militia. The original transfer is they were Government troops and not militia.

men six month officers. The difficulty of carrying out such a plan was insuperable. Suppose the general officers to be chosen according to his plan, and a vacancy should occur by the loss of a brigadier general, how was it to be filled while the army was actively engaged in the duties of the field? The troops of State brigades must often be sent off in detachments; how were vacancies to be filled in that case?

There were, besides, diversities in the militia laws of the States as to the appointment of officers. In some States the officers were appointed for four years; in others were no militia laws at all. How was a general rule to the service of the servic

Mr. BURT was understood to reply that we had one colonel

appointments which had been passed from the foundation of the Government, and, in examining these, it would be found that, in the legislation of previous Congresses, volunteers had never been considered as militia. While by some acts, it was committee on Military Affairs, viz. that if the original bill, as fantry had gone from the State of Tennessee, and he did not true, they were not regarded as regulars, volunteers whose

And passed by the House, had also received the sanction of the own officers; he therefore desired to have the bill amended by tive on Senate, there would not now have been any necessity for the striking out the word "three" and inserting "two." passed by the House, had also received the sanction of the Senate, there would not now have been any necessity for the introduction of these supplemental bills. The difficulty had been created by the Senate, and especially by the particular friend of the gentleman from Georgia, (Mr. Stefhens,) a distinguished Senator from the West, (understood to refer to Mr. Benton.) It was there that the difficulty began. What were the facts of our present situation? We had What were the facts of our present situation? We had now twenty-four regiments already in the field, or soon about

to enter it, constituting eight brigades, and no general offi-cers to command them. How were these officers to be ap-pointed? Who had power to appoint? The Governors of the States? Where was the law which authorized it? The prescribed the number of volunteers to be received and their organization. Their colonels were allowed to be chosen by themselves as a concession to the prejudices which were known to prevail on that point. It was a great concession which granted the same thing in the present bill. They might have been commanded by officers of the United States. No doubt, should the bill pass, these officers would be selected by the President on the very principle by which gentlemen wished to provide that his choice should be restricted.

The States? Where was the law which authorized it? The Governors had not acted, because there was no law. Could the President appoint them? He could not; and this bill was introduced because he could not, unless Congress conferred upon him the power. What could he do? He could not do more than to nominate those who were already in commission in the States, and under State authority, to take the command of divisions. And now what had his colleague (Mr. Thomasson) just said? That in Kentucky the whole militia system was a laurching-stock, which was no more than militia system was a laughing-stock, which was no more than State where, according to his colleague, the militia laws were a dead letter, whom gentlemen were for taking and putting in a dead letter, whom gentlemen were for taking and putting in command over our volunteers. The State Governments had no authority to make the appointments, and the President had no power to receive volunteers under any other organization than that of regiments. He could not receive them in a brigade, because there were no brigadiers to command them. The whole state of the case exhibited a present and a pressing for necessity for action. Let not gentlemen spend the time in talk, but let our brigades go fully officered to the field, or else let them be disbanded. Gentlemen here wanted us to deliberate, to deliberate long. They wanted to send back this bill, that the committee might deliberate, and when it came back they wanted the House to deliberate, and he supposed the whole matter was to be debated over again. Where was the whole matter was to be debated over again. Where was the necessity of this when the question lay within a flut-shell?

As to the proposition which had been suggested by the gentleman from Alabama, (Mr. YANCEY,) Mr. B. should prefer tleman from Alabama, (Mr. YANCEY,) Mr. B. should prefer it if we now had time to carry it out. But this bill was un-derstood to provide for an exigency. The brigades were ready to march, and were marching, but had no officers to com-mand them. Could the gentleman ask that the country should wait three or four months till the election of their officers could take place as proposed by him, and the return of that could take place as proposed by him, and the return of tha election be sent back to the seat of Government, and the commissions then to be forwarded to the seat of war? Mr. B. trusted in God that, long before all this could be done, the

war would have been brought to a close.

Mr. HARALSON said that when last up he had a few re marks which he wished to make, but had been persuaded by his friends, contrary to his own wishes, to call the previous question. As he had before stated, the original bill first reported from the Military Committee had contained the same provisions which was found in this bill. The subject had been elaborately debated in Committee and then acted on in the House, and a bill passed on the 13th of May last. The whole matter must be well understood, and there could be no need now of further delay for its consideration. The whole difficulty seemed to be in drawing a distinction between militia and volunteers. He thought that distinction had been clearly shown by his friend from South Carolina, (Mr. Burt.) The whole history of our past legislation had drawn a distinct line between the two species of force.

He would call the House to the laws which marked tha

distinction. The 12th section of the 1st article of the consti-tution empowered Congress to "raise and support armies." This bill had been prepared under the sanction of that power It was not necessary that an army should be enlisted for four or five years. Volunteers were a temporary force; their service was limited as to time, but in all other respects they reembled regular troops. Another clause of the constituti authorized Congress to call forth the militia to suppress insur-rection and to repel invasion. That clause was inserted as a provision to meet sudden emergencies, but it did not con-flict at all with the other power to raise armies. There was flict at all with the other power to raise armies. There was one further clause which empowered Congress to provide for organizing armies and disciplining the militia, but which reserved to the States the appointment of the officers. It was the last clause which had been mainly relied on by those who opposed this bill, and it had been construed into an authority to the States to appoint officers to command volunteers; but the construction and all the arguments founded on it arose from not drawing a due distinction between militia and volun-teers. As soon as that distinction was drawn the whole diffi culty was at an end. The States had a clear and indisputacuity was at an end. The States had a clear and indisputable power to officer their own militia. If this bill should not pass, the only thing the President could do would be to call officers of the militia to command the volunteer force. But this was impracticable in relation to some of the States, because they had no militia organization—(he was happy this remark did not apply to his own State, for the militia of Georgia were as well oversided these of any State. gia were as well organized as those of any State in the Union. In some States the militia officers were elected and commissioned to serve for four years. Now, when the Presiden appointed one of these officers how was he to know when their commissions would expire? It might happen that when the army was in the midst of a march the authority of a commanding officer would suddenly cease. Some of their commissions might not have three months to run, and many of missions might not have three months to run, and many of them might expire within the twelve months for which the volunteers were engaged to serve; and, besides, according to our last act, militia could not be called out for more than six months. In the midst of the exigencies of the service an of-ficer's commission might expire, and then he might wrap himself in his personal sovereignty, fold his arms, and refuse to obey orders; or, if he disliked the hardships of the service, night retire and abandon his command. There would be no

Mr. STEPHENS here interposed to explain, and was unave their own officers. Mr. HARALSON, resuming, said that, however desirable this might be, the thing was impracticable. Suppose we should pass a law to authorize the inferior officers of the volunteers to meet and elect officers of brigade and division: at least twelve days must elapse after the passing of such a law before they could meet to make the election. Twelve days more must be consumed in transmitting the result to the seat of government, and twelve days yet more in returning the commissions under which the officers elected were to serve. Here must be a delay of thirty-six days before one of these officers could take the field and put himself at the head of his command. Six weeks before he could stir a foot. Before that time it was possible that the campaign might end—though such was not Mr. H.'s anticipation. If the policy was to prosecute this war with energy, then such a plan for the election of officers was impracticable. And, as to the appoint-ment of generals under the supplemental act, to say nothing of the expiration of commissions in some States, the militia were so completely disorganized that their officers could not

law to force him to proceed a step further. To be sure, Mr. H. entertained no fears that such a thing would ever occur,

but the possibility of its occurrence should not be incurred.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Alabama, here interposed to inquire supposing there should be a regiment from Georgia and a regiment from Alabama, constituting a brigade, which State was to commission the officers, and when or how were they to get together to hold an election?

The reply of Mr. HARALSON was not heard. He wen on to observe that the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. Tho cutive. Mr. T. would leave it to the candor of any gentleman to say which of the two was likely to make the most suitable selections.

Then he had another objection to the bill. He did not want to see any more power than at present accumulating in the hands of one man. The officers who came in with the volunteers of our brave and devoted volunteers, to induce them to some of our brave and devoted volunteers, to induce them to teer troops were subject to the rules and articles of war, and teer troops were subject to the rules and articles of war, and ready to serve under general officers appointed by the President. He thought this was a proper time for Congress to draw a broad line of distinction, and to circumscribe the power of the President to the officering of the regulars only, and to declare that all other troops should be officered by the State in conformity with the State laws. He was prepared to take that ground now, and he hoped the Military Committee would draught a bill giving to the States the authority in all cases. consent to be commanded by a man from another State. Sup draught a bill giving to the States the authority in all cases.

From which of them, then, was the President to select
He was told that the Governor of Kentucky had refused to Let a junior officer take the command, even a lieutenant was sufficient to lead these volunteers to the field where they were to be placed under another command. Mr. T. asked of Mr. Burn where were our colonels and lieutenant colonels at present belonging to the army. He believed there was but one colonel and one lieutenant colonel. any other plan of officering the volunteers would be found im-

practicable.

Mr. COCKE here inquired whether this bill did not change

There were, besides, determinent of officers. In some different States as to the appointment of officers. In some states the officers were appointed for four years; in others there were no militia laws at all. How was a general rule to the arrived at? The expediency and necessity of having the officers appointed by the President must be apparent.

Mr. B. wished to submit a few words as to the constitutional power of the President to appoint officers over the volunteers. He had examined all the acts in regard to these appointments which had been made about hasty legislation in the manner in which both were to be deficered.

Mr. B. wished to submit a few words as to the constitutional power of the President to appoint officers over the volunteers. He had examined all the acts in regard to these appointments which had been made about hasty legislation in the manner in which both were to be efficiency.

Mr. BOYD said that if it was admitted that Congress had power to pass this bill under the general authority conferred on them by the constitutions to raise armies, sustained as they were by ample precedent, it must be clear that they ought to be were by ample precedent, it must be clear that they ought to brigadiers there were the fewer major generals would be required, and there would be a correspondent curtailment of expense. He thought it probable that it was on these grounds that the congress had power to pass this bill under the general authority conferred on the Secretary of War. The reason which had actuated the President or the Secretary of War. The reason which had actuated the President or the Secretary of War. The reason which had actuated the President or the Secretary of War. The reason which had actuated the President or the Secretary of War. The reason which had actuated the President or the Secretary of War. The reason which had actuated the President or the Secretary of War. The reason which had actuated the President or the Secretary of War. The reason which had actuated the President or the Secret

triking out the word "three" and inserting "two."

Mr. HARALSON proceeded. The bill of the 18th instant vided that the President might receive volunteers in com-nics, battalions, or regiments. A difficulty had here been gested by his colleague over the way, (Mr. STEPHENS,) provided that the Pres pantes, battalions, or regiments. A difficulty had here been suggested by his colleague over the way, (Mr. STEPHENS,) who asked, if the volunteers were to be considered as regulars, why the President did not appoint all their officers? In reply, Mr. H. would say that while the constitution authorized Congress to raise and support armies, it did not prescribe any particular mode in which this was to be done, and nothing prevented Congress from adopting the State organization if it pleased. It was not prohibited by the constitution. Mr. STEPHENS here made a remark which was lost to

the Reporter.

Mr. HARALSON said, in reply, that Congress could call out the militia to suppress insurrection and repel invasion, and it could also raise armies either by regular enlistment or by receiving volunteers. The law as it existed allowed the voreceiving volunteers. The law as it existed allowed the vo-lunteers to be received with an organization as high as regi-ments, but none above that. It was more desirable that these regiments should be organized into brigades and divisions and officered as such. Seven weeks had already elapsed since the war was recognised to exist, and gentlemen now proposed a delay of six weeks more before the brigades could be organized and ready to act. Mr. H. was bound to oppose any such projects of delay. He did not object to the principle of the amendment of the gentleman from Alabama; his sole objec-tion was to the delay. The volunteers might have been com-pletely organized and officered, and in the field at the seat of pletely organized and officered, and in the field at the seat of war before this day, but for the action of the Senate.

Mr. H. said there was one precedent so exactly to the point that, though it had been referred to by his friend from South Carolina, (Mr. Bunr.) he must be permitted to quote it. He referred to the act of July, 1812, which expressly authoized the President to appoint officers over volunteers. The reference was now peculiarly appropriate, for it went to show that at that time such an authority was not deemed unconstitutional. Mr. H. here quoted the law, which authorized the President to appoint general, field, and staff officers to command the volunteers, and provided that they should receive the same pay as troops of the line. Under that law the President had received the same pay as troops of the line. sident had accordingly appointed brigadiers. The law arose from precisely the same necessity which existed now, and nto a syllable was said about any violation of the constitution.

Mr. ATKINSON here asked that Mr. Madison's message

recommending the appointment of officers for the volunteer force by the Executive should be read; and it was read at the

Clerk's table accordingly.

Mr. HARALSON dwelt on the difficulties which must at tend an attempt to carry out the second section of the supplemental bill. The President could not know how long the immissions of the volunteer officers had to run, when they began, or when they would expire. A thousand perplexing and exciting questions of rank might grow up on that very subject, for precedence in command would be regulated by date. The President could only call these officers out, but had no power or right to commission them, and their employ-ment might lead to infinite confusion. There were many of these officers whom Mr. H. knew personally, and whom he should be willing to trust, but he desired that the Government should be writing to trust, out he desired that the Covernment should have all the power that might be necessary to a prompt and vigorous prosecution of the war. Give the Executive all requisite facilities and means, and then, if he did not do well, hold him to the strictest responsibility.

Mr. McCLERNAND said that quite sufficient time had

been allowed for this discussion. It had been abundantly shown that the bill was according to precedent. The President was responsible for the exercise of this power, if conferred; and Mr. McC. was willing to put it into his hands The time called for action rather than words; and he there fore demanded the previous question.

Mr. COCKE requested him to withdraw the demand that

he might have time to explain his amendment; but Mr. McClernand stood fast, and insisted on the call. It was econded by the House : Yeas 77, nays 53.

The previous question having been thus sustained— The question recurred on the amendment moved by M. The yeas and nays were taken, and were as follows:

Cocke, as before stated.

The yeas and nays were taken, and were as follows:
YEAS—Messrs. Abbott, Arnold, Ashmun, Barringer, Bell, Blanchard, John H. Campbell, Carroll, Cocke, Cranston, Crozier, Culver, Darragh, Dixon, Dockery, Edwin H. Ewing, Faran, Garvin, Gentry, Graham, Grider, Grinnell, Hampton, Harper, Henley, Hilliard, John W. Houston, Samuel D. Hubbard, Hudson, Washington Hunt, Andrew Johnson, Geo. W. Jones, Kennedy, Leib, Long, Jeseph J. McDowell, McGaughey, McHenry, McHivaine, Miller, Moseley, Pollock, Ramsey, Julius Rockwell, John A. Rockwell, Root, Runk, Schenck, Simpson, Truman Smith, Albert Smith, Caleb B. Smith, Stephens, Strohm, Thomasson, Tilden, Toombs, Trumbo, White, Woodruff, Young—61.

NAYS—Messrs. John Quincy Adams, Anderson, Atkinson, Bedinger, Biggs, James Black, James A. Black, Bowlin, Boyd, Brinkerhoff, Brockenbrough, Brohead, William G. Brown, Burt, Catheart, Reuben Chapman, Chase, Chipman, Cobb, Collin, Cullom, Daniel, De Mott, Dillingham, Dobbin, Douglass, Dunlap, Edsall, Ellsworth, Erdman, Giles, Goodyear, Gordon, Grover, Hamlin, Haralson, Isaac E. Holmes, Hopkins, Hough, George S. Houston, Edmund W. Hubard, Hungerford, James B. Hunt, Charles J. Ingersoll, Jenkins, James H. Johnson, Joseph Johnson, Scaborn Jones, Kaufman, Preston King, Lawrence, Ligon, Lumpkin, Maclay, McClean, Parish, Rathbun, Reid, Ritter, Roberts, Sawtelle, Sawyer, Scammon, Seddon, Alexander D. Sims, Robert Smith, Stanton, Starkweather, St. John, Strong, Jas. Thompson, J. Thompson, J. Thompson, J. Thompson, Tibbatts, Tredway, Wheaton, Williams, Yaneey, and Yost—38.

So the amendment was rejected.

So the amendment was rejected. And, under the operation of the previous question, the bil was ordered to a third reading; and, being read the third time, the question recurred, Shall it pass?

The previous question was ordered; and, under its opera tion, the question was put, Shall it pass?

And passed in the affirmative.

Mr. BRINKERHOFF moved a reconsideration of the question on the passage, and moved the previous question on his motion, which was ordered; when—

The House refused to reconsider its vote; and the bill stands passed, and was returned to the Senate with the con-

## FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

The Union of the 23d instant-probably for some siniste purpose-gives, as an "interesting reminiscence," a list of wenty-two generals who were in the army in 1813, and adds, (laudari a viro laudato,) of "these leaders of the last war" but one (Gen. Cass) is now living."

Now, I was but young at the time, but have always sed that the war in question terminated early in 1815, and hat all the hard fighting occurred after 1813.

In an Army List of January 1, 1815, I find the names some other leaders in that war, who are killed off by the Union. and in this list I do not find the name signalized in that paper The names italicized below represent "leaders" who are only dead in the columns of the Union. WEST POINT.

GENERAL STAFF .- Rank, Districts, Stations, &c.

Names.	Rank.	Dates of appoint- ment.	No. dist't.	Stations and re- marks.
General officers.				
Henry Dearborn	Major general	Jan. 27, '12	1	
Thos. Pinekney	Do		6	File Park
Jas. Wilkinson .	Do	Do 2, '13	13	
Morgan Lewis	Do		3	00007
George Izard	Do	Jan. 24, '14	9	1st divis'n
Jacob Brown	Do	Jan. 24	9	2d divis'n
Andrew Jackson	Do	May 1	7	
Winfield Scott	Maj. gen. by brev.	July 25	10	15-7117-27-1
Edm. P. Gaines.	Do	August 15	1	
Alex. Macomb	Do	Sept. 15	9	Plattsbu'g
Jas. Winchester.	Brigadier general.	Mar. 27, '12	7	
Tho. H. Cushing	Do		2	N. London
John Chandler	Do	July 8	1	
John P. Boyd	. Do	August 26	3	
Wm. H. Winder	Do		9	2d divis'n
Dun. M'Arthur.	Do	Mar. 12	8	
Thon. A. Smith.	Do	Jun. 24, '14	9	1st divis'n
Daniel Bissell	Do		9	Do
Elea. W. Ripley	Do	April 15	9	2d divis'n
Henry Burbeck.	Brig. gen. by brev.			Gr'nbush
Moses Porter	Do			Nortolk
Joneph G. Swift	Do			Chief of
James Miller	Do			corps eng.

county, and is only eight hours travel, from Washington and Baltimore. Its water is of the same quality of the famed Bedford, and the salubrity of the atmosphere and beauty of scenery

The charges are moderate, and the fare equal to any in the THE PROPRIETORS.

CALDWELL INSTITUTE. THE next session of this Institution will commence on Wednesday, the 8th of July. The members of the Faculty

Rev. ALEXANDER WILSON, D.D., President, and Pro-

fessor of Greek Language and Literature.

RALPH H. GRAVES, Professor of Mathematics and Natu Rev. JOHN A. BINGHAM, Professor of Latin Language

r in-and Literature. By order of the Board of Trustees.

INCIDENTS AT THE LATE NATIONAL FAIR.

the late Fair so ie items which irresistibly force upon au minds a comparison of the past with the present. I copy the subjoined memoranda from a few out of this class of items In that have fallen under my observation.

[No. 1 was a piece of very common cotton, which, by rare good fortune, has escaped the shears of fate, while a whole generation of men has passed away. The letter was attach ed to the piece. Nos. 2 and 3 are spemens from much more ancient days : they were small samples which have been retained, it is believed, by their owners. No. 4 sufficiently explains itself, while it shows that an article much used, and now selling for 20 to 30 cents a yard, brought, only eight years ago, 65 cents per yard.]

Boston, May 6, 1846. DEAR SIR : I herewith hand you a few yards of British cotton, cut from a piece which has been in my possession since the full of 1813, when it was purchased at a prize sale of Eng-ish goods, and cost eighty-five cents per yard, cash, Boston money, which was equal to specie, as the Boston banks did

noney, which was equal to specie, as the boston banks did not suspend payments during our last war with England.

As one of the objects of the National Fair about to be held in Washington is to "show to Congress and the country the progress which has been made in American art, industry, and ngenuity, under the fostering care of a protective tariff," I have thought that this specimen may be useful, as fixing the value of plain cottons in this country before any protection had been given to their manufacture by Congress, and there-by establish a starting point from which to trace the progress the business to the present time.

Very respectfully, yours, ROBERT ROGERSON. S. BATCHELDOR, Esq., Cambridge, Mass.

(This was a piece of cotton that would not at the present ime bring over seven cents. It is now placed in one of the committee rooms of the House of Representatives for the in-spection of such as have a curiosity on the subject to be gra-tified.] No. 2.

Specimen of curtain calico, printed in Philadelphia, and purchased by Joseph England, of Nottingham, Maryland, on or about the year 1767. Cost nine shillings and fourpencealfpenny per yard, or \$1 25. [Would not sell for 7 cents now.]

. No. 3. A specimen of gunah or cotton cloth from Calcutta, sold plain for 25 cents per yard, 36 inches wide, and was printed in Milk street, Boston, and sold for 33 cents per yard about 1805. [Would not be worth 6 cents now.]

No. 4. This piece of Kentucky jeans was one of a case of a precis ly similar quality bought by Janney, Hopkins & Hull, of Harker, Lea & Co., Philadelphia, October 12, 1838, at 65 cents, eight months credit, as the annexed original invoice will prove. It was returned by a customer for imperfections, (being the only imperfect piece of the lot,) and for that reason has not been resold since. It is a fair sample of the best quality of Kentucky jeans of that time. We are positive of its being of the identical case in question, as we always number our invoices, and the ticket of the piece corresponds exact ly in number with that endorsed on the invoice when put on file. Witness our hand, dated in Baltimore, May 16, 1846.
HOPKINS & HULL,
Successors to Janney, Hopkins & Hull.

Ригалевента, 10 мо. 12, 1838.

Janney, Hopkins & Hull,
Bought of Harker, Lea & Co., 32 Chestnut st.
1 bale super Kentucky jeans, 505\frac{3}{2} yards, at 65 cts. \\$328 73 Drayage [This would not bring over 25 cents now.]

MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF GEN. SCOTT.

A large and respectable meeting of the citizens of Gettys urg (Pennsylvania) and vicinity convened in the court-house, Thursday evening, the 18th instant, for the purpose of exressing their views upon the unworthy effort now being made by bad and unscrupulous partisans to tarnish the fair fame of America's best and ablest soldier, Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT. The meeting was organized by appointing Major Gen. DAVID MIDDLECOFF, President; Lieut. Col. Robert Cobean, Lieut. Col. S. S. McCreary, Lieut. Col. John Scott, Capt. J. Clapsaddle, and Col. J. H. McClellan, Vice Presidents; and H J. Schreiner, J. G. Frey, Daniel Lashel, J. M. Stevenson, jr James Fahnestock, and John Gallagher, Secretaries.

The object had in view by the call for the meeting was feelingly and eloquently stated by D. M. SMYSER, Esq., who moved the appointment of a committee of THIRTY-ONE to draught and report resolutions expressive of the sense of the neeting. The committee, after retiring a short time, reported the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas the President of the United States has refused to Major General Winfield States has required to Major General Winfield Scott the command of the army intended for the invasion of Mexico; and whereas the responsibility for this unprecedented step, which properly and fairly belongs to the Administration alone, is unjustly and falsely attempted to be fastened upon Gen. Scott: Therefore Resolved, That we not only justify but commend the content of the Scott of Scott Scot

duct of Gen. Scott in his late correspondence with the Secretary of War, in which he informed that functionary, in plain and indignant language, that he was not the dope of the schemers the country that the public may be prepared to see with it leavoring to deprive him of the cor mand of the army

to invest General Scott with the commend of the army, to which he is entitled as well by his rank as by his illustrious humble life. Not the least of these distinctions do I displayed, and which have so much endeared him to the American people—namely, a frankness which treasures no wrong in secret; a courage which fears not to cast into the teeth of power its meanness and injustice; and a chivalent and southern men, in not only indirectly, but are recally pressly, generously, and unanimously approving my conduct in having for many months urged the adoption of the principal measures which have recently been carried as by acclaimation. power its meanness and injustice; and a chivalrous generosity which scorns to deprive another of a single laurel gloriously

won.

Resolved, That the refusal of General Scorr to supersede General TAYLOR, who had fought by his side in battle, except at the head of such reinforcements as would allow him to do so without injustice or obloquy to that gallant old soldier, furso without injustice or obloquy to that gallant old soldier, furnishes another evidence of the generosity and magnanisity of his nature, and adds new splendor to a name already rendered illustrious throughout the world by the deeds of its owner.

Resolved, That the Administration has not only been guilty of great injustice to Gen. Scott himself, but by its refusal to give him the command of the army destined for the invasion of Mexico, through a mean jealousy of the glory which he might acquire at its head, has wronged the country by depriving it of the services of its bravest and most experienced general.

it of the services of its bravest and most experienced general.

Resolved, That the eager haste with which the Administration availed itself of his frank and straight-forward state-

stracks and malignant standers. Let the vipers bite the file, they will but break their own teeth. Let the dogs bay the

Do. Mar. 12. 13 92d divis n
Do. Mar. 12. 18
Do

jority of the Whig press of the country standing forward fear-lessly to vindicate the fame and conduct of Gen. Scott, which During the absence of the committee the meeting was ably addressed by Gen. James Dobbin. Hon. James Coopen responded to a call of the meeting in a powerful and eloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the oblo-

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

PROM THE "UNION" OF YESTERDAY.

The Passibent laid before the Senate [on the 24th instant] the following letter from General GAINES to the Departnent of War, which was read and ordered to be printed HEADQUARTERS WESTERS DIVISION,
New Orleans, June 7th, 1846.
Sru: I have to acknowledge the honor of your letter of t

28th May—last month.
It was with surprise I learned the Department of War re garded with disapprobation the request made by me upon the Governors of Kentucky and other States for assistance. At the time it was made (the 4th of May last) General Taylor was in the most critical situation. He had been left with was in the most critical situation. He had been left with neither adequate means nor men to sustain the national honor—opposed to an army near four times as strong as his own, and cut off from his military stores. The country was uncertain whether he could escape destruction. By his own gallantry, and the indomitable counce of his officers and men, and the providence of God, he extracted himself from the difficulty. At this crisis he requested traps to be sent to him with all possible dispatch. As commander of this division of the United States army, I immediately sught the means of meeting his wishes. And I would have beened myself recreant to my trust, and meriting dismissal from the service, if I had postponed action on the subject for two weeks, until orders could have been received from Washington.

ington.

The War Department may deem the number of troops ask the war bepartment may deem the number of troops ask-ed by me as greater than the exigency required. This, I must confess, would astonish me, as the War Department asked and procured a bill authorizing the levy of 50,000 vol-unteers, and appropriating (\$10,000,000) ten millions to meet the same exigency.

The War Department seems to be of opinion that there is

no discretionary power lodged in me to act without positive orders. I therefore would ask, for information, if a servile insurrection should occur; if an irruption should be made by large tribes of Indians; if a swarm of steamers, with Paixhan guns, were seen hovering about this seaconst; or if a General, at the bead of a great part of the army of the United States upon the frontier of a neighboring State near me, should ask assistance, would it be my duty to refuse all aid until I should have received orders from Washington? I humbly conceive that the latter case has existed within the last month: and if I have erred in deeming General Taylor and his army in a situation so hazardous as to demand immediate or the state of the state o diate succor, it is an error under which the country, the Congress, and the War Department have equally labored. Had assistance been delayed by me, and had General Taylor and his army been cut off, I would have regarded it as an indelihis army been cut off, I would have regarded it as an indelible stigma upon my name. I am aware that the exercise of such a discretion must ever be at the peril of the officer exercising it. That peril I can never hesitate to incur whenever the welfare of the country demands it. If I exercise it unwisely, I am willing that my commission shall be forfeited; or if I exercise it vainly, or for dishonorable purposes, I am willing to be shot. I am more than willing to abide the consequences of my conduct in this matter, confident as I am that I have not transcended my duty, or acted with greater zeal than the emergency required. If the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, so well contested as they were for a time on both sides, had resulted in the loss of Taylor's army, it would have plunged the whole Union into deep mourning, and into that most poignant of all human griefs, an abiding sense of self-reproach for the settled and cold indifference with which his want of competent force and supplies had been for menths

The talented and gallant General De Buys, who for a long time commanded the finest division of volunteers I have ever seen since the war of 1814 and '15, and who, I am sure, has no superior for the command of this description of force, with L. Texada, Esq., one of the most promising young members of the Legislature, and the talented Judge Bryce, were not, as you seem to suppose, private citizens. They were Louisiana volunteers, and gentlemen of high respectability, and were appointed by me to act as officers of the general staff, upon the same principle that the distinguished Edward Livingston, A. L. Duncan, and John R. Grymes, all first-rate lawyers, were appointed by Jackson to act as staff officers.

Jackson's object was, as my object has ever been upon such occasions, to maintain the great principle upon which the de-fence and the independence of our beloved Union must for-ever depend; that to be a private volunteer is to hold a station

ever depend; that to be a private volunteer is to hold a station of high honor, whence an acting general staff may with strict propriety be taken and put on duty in the absence of the regular staff of the army.

These appointments, and all the measures taken by me to which you object, were deemed by me as essential duties, and discharged by me upon principles sanctioned by the greatest and best of men ever known to me, some of whom took their degrees in military and political science in the school of our beloved Washington, Greene, and Knox; and in the more civic school of Jefferson, and Dearborn, and Gallatin; and, though last, not least, in the school of Madison, Eustis, Dallas, and Armstrong, Monroe, and Calhoun, the master spirits of the war of 1812 to 1814 and '15.

Be assured, sir, that I will obey with much pleasure the orders of the President of the United States, according to my oath of office. As to the reprimands with which you have honored me in the last year, and in the last and present month, although they strike me as novelties not being war-

month, although they strike me as novelties not being war-ranted by the sentence of a general court-martial, yet I care-lessly submit to them, as they seem to be a source of pleasure to the War Department, and certainly inflict no injury on me. I can conceive but one motive for their frequent occur-rence, and that is, that my name shall be so bandled before officers are created in the arm

difference my name passed by in silence he was entitled by his rank as Commander in Chief.

Resolved, That, after a careful examination of all the facts connected with the refusal of the President of the United States

useless, as I may very soon be unable to discharge the active duties of my profession, (though long in the enjoyment of excellent health:) for I am already old, of a contented disposervices, and the blood which has streamed forth from his veins on the battle-fields of his country, we recognise in all, with feelings of the highest admiration, the same noble con-

officer known to me. I, sir, was born at a time and can among men who had not learned the art of marching to dinction by trampling under foot the claims of their determinants.

Very respectfully, yours, EDMUND PENDLETON GAINES. Major General United States Army,
Commanding the Western Division.
Hon. Wm. L. Maney, Secretary of War, Washington.

FROM THE SAME PAPER, SAME DATE. OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM THE ARMY. We have been permitted to lay before our readers the folowing extract from the last official despatches of General TAYLOR which have been received at the War Department

Resolved, That the eager haste with which the Administration availed itself of his frank and straight-forward statement of grievances and demand for redress or explanation, to withhold from him the command to which the voice of the country had already called him, taken in connexion with the ungenerous attempt to legislate him out of his commission, betray the extent to which they envy his reputation and fear his popularity, and the unworthy arts of contrivance to which they are prepared to resort to remove a rival from their path.

Resolved, That we recognise in this conspiracy to destroy General Scorr in the estimation of the people, the working of the same spirit which poured out calumnies upon Hexray CLli, and propagated charges of imbecility and cowardice against the lamented Harnison.

Resolved, That it is idle and vain for those carpet-knights, whose highest exploit has been to do military duty once a year under the comfortable shade of an umbrella, to hope to sully the fame or hide the glory of General Scorr by their envisous attacks and malignant slanders. Let the vipers bite the file, they will but break their own teeth. Let the dogs bay the

Brevet Brig. Gen. U. S. A. command To the ADJUTANT GENERAL.
Of the Army, Washington.

TEXAS SALT -The Houston Telegraph says that the sec responded to a call of the meeting in a powerful and eloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Hero of Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Sult water of the Gulf flows during west of the Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Sult water of the Gulf flows during west of the Niagara's battle-fields from the obloquent defence of the Sult water of the Sult wate